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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Rhoads et al.

Application No.: 09/476,686

Filed: December 30, 1999

For: PERSONAL AUDIO APPLIANCE

Examiner:

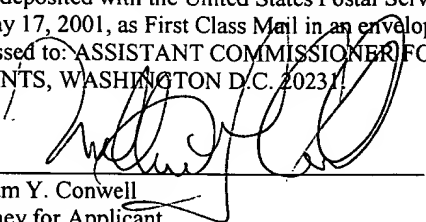
Date: May 17, 2001



Art Unit 2755

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on May 17, 2001, as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON D.C. 20231.


William Y. Conwell
Attorney for Applicant

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

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MAY 24 2001

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the subject application as follows:

In the Title:

Change the title to read --PERSONAL AUDIO APPLIANCE--

In the Claims:

[6] 5. A method comprising:
receiving audio at a device;
discerning from the audio a plural-bit audio ID;
obtaining a user ID from a memory in the device;
transmitting at least portions of both the audio ID and the user ID to a location remote from said device.

[7] 6. The method of claim [6] 5 in which the audio ID comprises a Digital Object Identifier.

[8] 7. The method of claim [6] 5 that further comprises receiving the audio by a microphone.

[9] 8. The method of claim [8] 7 that further comprises discerning at least two IDs from the audio, one being said audio ID, another being an ID corresponding to an environment in which the device is located.